

DD/A 75-1077

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Temperature Conditions in the Ames Building

Sir:

1. Reference is made to your note of 12 February 1975 which stated that some Agency employees were quite uncomfortable in the Ames Building because the black venetian blinds absorbed the sun heat. You asked if anything could or should be done about this.

2. I have in hand a detailed engineering analysis which indicates that the total heat gain resulting from the use of black blinds is a very minor factor in the total equation. The highlights of the report are:

a. The air conditioning system has the capacity to keep temperatures within allowable federal standards.

b. The building owner would undoubtedly object to changing the aesthetics of the building exterior.

c. The estimated cost of blind replacement for approximately 900 blinds is \$73,140.00. The Agency would have to pay.

d. The General Services Administration (GSA) would probably insist on an executive waiver for this scope of investment in a leased building.

e. Energy savings during the cooling season would be largely offset by increased energy requirements during the heating season.

f. A high rise motel now under construction should relieve some of the future sun load problems, particularly on the lower floors.

g. GSA's policy of maintaining summer temperatures at a range of 78° to 82° creates a certain level of discomfort and aggravates control problems in buildings with central systems but variable building loads.

4. In effect, it is not considered practicable to replace the venetian blinds. I have asked the Office of Logistics to monitor the situation and arrange to publish a Rosslyn Notice (Ames-Magazine-Key Buildings) which will spell out allowable temperature limits, office heat prevention techniques and trouble call procedures. Most certainly, the Office of Logistics study will be made available to any responsible, concerned officer, and I would be most pleased to discuss the overall situation with any employee who wants to step forward.

John F. Blake
Deputy Director
for
Administration

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h/w "P.S.--or, all you ever wanted to know
about Venetian Blinds but etc., etc." J.B.

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EO-DD/A [] der (5 March 1975)

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